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Gold price hits \$800 an ounce

NEW YORK, Jan. 17 (R) — Gold prices surged again on world markets today, hitting a record \$800 an ounce in New York. An early afternoon surge sending prices up more than 300 an ounce was caused by reports of fighting between Soviet troops and Afghan army units, dealers said. The price had fallen earlier as investors cashed in on profits made in the spectacular price climb of recent weeks. Gold closed yesterday in New York at about \$745 an ounce. Gold was fixed at the regular price-setting session on the London Bullion Market at \$750 an ounce. A report that five Soviet warships were sighted today sailing through the Sea of Japan separating Japan and South Korea, according to Tokyo's defence agency, added to anxiety on the markets about political tensions, the dealers in London said.

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U.S. carrier enters Indian Ocean

WASHINGTON, Jan. 17 (R) — The U.S. aircraft carrier Nimitz has entered the Indian Ocean, temporarily giving the United States three aircraft carriers in waters approaching Iran, the Pentagon said today. The 25 ships at present in the area will drop to 20 in the next few days, however, as the Nimitz relieves the carriers Kitty Hawk and Forrestal on the scene. The United States built up its naval strength in the Indian Ocean following the seizure of American hostages in Tehran by Iranian militants. In London, the defence ministry said today a British Royal Navy task force, including three missile-carrying frigates, is on its way to the Mediterranean. The ships would carry out exercise and visit a number of friendly ports during an indefinite stay, a ministry spokesman said.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Regional Briefs

KUWAIT, Jan. 17 (R) — Kuwait has expelled about 18,000 foreigners from the country in the past three months, the security chief, Brig. Mohammad Al-Hamad, said in an interview published today. He told the weekly newspaper Al-Hadaf that 200 to 250 people were expelled every day for illegal entry or failure to obtain residence permits. He said that none of the expulsions had a political motive.

TEL AVIV, Jan. 17 (AP) — A Palestinian Arab died yesterday when a bomb he was preparing exploded prematurely, a spokesman for Israel's West Bank military government said today. The spokesman said Abdullah Mustafa Mahmoud, 30, of the village of Bal'a, near Tulkarm, was carrying a three-kilogramme bomb when it exploded on the road between Tulkarm and Nablus. According to the spokesman, there was no indication where Mr. Mahmoud planned to plant the bomb, which he called a "very large" explosive device.

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan. 17 (R) — The price of milk and other dairy products jumped another 15 per cent today as a result of increased production costs, a finance ministry spokesman said. Milk and butter prices have gone up by more than 350 per cent over the past year. Last November the government removed most subsidies to farmers. Food prices soared and there were a number of violent street riots in low income neighbourhoods in some cities. The new prices policy is part of a government programme to reduce spending and slow down the rate of inflation which reached 112 per cent last year.

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (R) — A man arrested last Sunday on a raid during which a senior police officer was killed said he belonged to an extreme Muslim terrorist group financed by a number of Arab countries, the newspaper Al-Ahram said today. The semi-official newspaper claimed the man, Ali Saleh Maghrabi said his group called Al Jihad (Holy War) were paid to carry out sabotage activities which could lead to sectarian strife. Al-Ahram yesterday quoted Interior Minister Nabawi Ismail as telling parliament that leftist and rightist subversive elements were attempting to cause strife between Egyptian Muslims and Christians. The newspaper claimed today Mr. Maghrabi said "the source of financing for the group was some Arab rejectionist countries." Al-Ahram did not name any of these countries. Prosecutor-General Salah Rashidi said on Monday that 70 members of the group were arrested in Alexandria during a raid on the previous day.

SANAA, Jan. 17 (R) — North Yemeni Prime Minister Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani returned here last night from a five-day official visit to Saudi Arabia and said that cooperation with the neighbouring country would be expanded. He told reporters on arrival that he and Saudi Arabia's leaders had reviewed their close relations and discussed how money given in aid to Yemen this year would be spent. Political sources said he had also discussed the latest Arab developments and the security of the Gulf in the wake of Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. Saudi Arabia provides the Red Sea country with what government officials here term as generous aid in all fields. Immediately on his arrival Mr. Abdul Ghani reported to President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

TEL AVIV, Jan. 17 (R) — Two Israeli test pilots were killed in Malawi on Monday during a demonstration of the Israeli-designed Azava plane according to Israel Aircraft Industry (IAI) sources. They were demonstrating low flying manoeuvres when their plane crashed, according to reports reaching IAI. One of the pilots, American-born Dave Levine, had survived a test flight crash before line production of the plane started in Israel nearly 10 years ago. Israel has sold abroad nearly 100 Azava aircraft, a short take off and landing (STOL) plane which can be used for civilian or military transport purposes.

BAGHDAD, Jan. 17 (R) — Guyana Prime Minister Forbes Burnham will pay a three-day visit to Iraq, starting Saturday, for talks on developing relations between the two countries, it was officially announced here today. A foreign ministry statement said Mr. Burnham would be making the trip in response to an official invitation. "The visit lies within the framework of developing and consolidating relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries," it added. Mr. Burnham is currently paying a similar visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya accompanied by a team including several cabinet ministers.

TOKYO, Jan. 17 (R) — A group of four Japanese steel firms has reached basic agreement to export to Saudi Arabia about 260,000 tonnes of steel pipes worth nearly \$243 million, industry sources here said today. The firms will sign a contract in Riyadh within a couple of months, they added. The pipes will be used to carry water from desalination plants on the Gulf to Riyadh, a distance of 460 kilometres. Other pipes for the project will be supplied by West German and Italian firms, the sources said.

Reassesses cultural revolution

Deng sets China tasks for 1980s

KING, Jan. 17 (R) — Senior Premier Deng Xiaoping has set a major speech projecting tasks for China in the 1980s, also including some reassessment of the cultural revolution, western diplomatic sources said today. The sources said the speech yesterday to senior officials in the Great Hall of the People included references to the country's modernisation programme and also touched on the situation in South China after the Soviet intervention in Vietnam.

Some sources suggested Mr. Deng's speech could mark the start of preparations for the 12th Communist Party congress, which is likely to be held in the latter half of this year. The 11th party congress was held in August 1977, setting China along its new road of modernisation and reconstruction after the political and economic chaos of the preceding 10 years. The chairman of China's parliament, Mr. Ye Jianying, said in

his national day speech last September that a formal summing up of the 30 years since the founding of the people's republic in 1949 should be made.

An assessment of the cultural revolution was especially important, he said, and the whole process would be carried out at a meeting convened for the purpose "at an appropriate time."

There has been no indication that the appropriate time has yet arrived. Diplomatic sources said any formal summing up of recent Chinese history would have to include the role played by the late Communist Party leader Mao Tse-tung.

The country's present leaders have in fact taken some steps along this path, emphasising the collective contribution made to China's progress in preference to spotlighting one individual.

Articles carried in the Chinese press on the 100th anniversary of Stalin's birth, for example, said the late Soviet leader had been 70 per cent correct and 30 per cent wrong. He was a great man but he had made mistakes. This appears to have been an accurate view of China's present attitude towards Mao himself.



Deng Xiaoping



A unit of the Afghan regular army reported to have defected to join the Muslim rebels fighting the Soviet-backed government of President Babrak Karmal in Kabul. The unit's leader, Col. Abdul Rauf, declares: 'We have enough arms and munitions to fight night and day for a year.' (Gamma)

Egypt, Israel end autonomy talks with differences as great as ever

CAIRO, Jan. 17 (Agencies) — Egyptian and Israeli delegates today ended talks on Palestinian autonomy with their differences as great as ever.

At today's final session, the Egyptian delegation called for the termination of Israeli military rule in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and the transfer of power to an elected Palestinian council. Egyptian chief delegate Ahmad Ezzat Abdul Latif said, Israeli proposals offering limited powers for the council were described by an Egyptian foreign ministry spokesman yesterday as a retrograde step.

Mr. Abdul Latif said the Egyptian position was that "Israeli military rule should end and all its powers be transferred to the autonomous Palestinian authority." He said the Egyptian delegation pointed out that autonomy should apply to the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, including Arab East Jerusalem. This was a problem since Israel had stated that the whole city of Jerusalem was its capital and that it would never be divided, he said.

Egyptian Prime Minister Mustapha Khalil, answering questions from reporters today, said: "It is very clear that according to Camp David, the military government and its civilian administration has to be abolished."

Egyptian sources said Egypt insisted on full autonomy for the Palestinians and rejected any partial transfer of power.

The next round of committee talks is scheduled for Jan. 28 in Israel.

Dr. Khalil, said the Egyptian plan was based on the Camp David accords of 1978 between Egypt, Israel and the United States. The three parties gave themselves up to next May to

complete the autonomy talks.

Dr. Khalil said no party could interpret the accords unilaterally. "All the powers and responsibilities of the military government and its civilian administration... must be transferred to the elected authority," he said.

Egyptian sources said Egypt insisted on full autonomy for the Palestinians and rejected any partial transfer of power.

They added that Egypt also wanted the autonomy authority to enjoy political, legislative and judicial powers.

In Tel Aviv, former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said today Israel and Egypt had reached deadlock in the Palestinian autonomy talks and warned that unless progress was made the

process of normalisation in the relations between the two countries could also be affected.

Speaking to the Israel-American Chamber of Commerce, he said Israel was deluding itself that progress could be made on the basis of its proposals. "We're offering the Palestinians 'complete autonomy' and retaining the power and the authority, control of the land and security," Mr. Eban added.

He said Israel had to fulfil its "national commitments", and realise there were peoples in the area between the Mediterranean and the Jordan River.

Meanwhile, Interior Minister Yosef Burg, told a news conference in Tel Aviv that Israel completely rejected the Egyptian proposals for autonomy.

He said the proposals would mean the establishment of a Palestinian parliament and complete autonomy for the area including East Jerusalem.

Settlers agree to quit Elon Moreh

TEL AVIV, Jan. 17 (R) — Israeli ultra-nationalists today agreed to evacuate a controversial settlement in the occupied West Bank, ending a long dispute with the government. The settlers said they would pull out of the Elon Moreh site overlooking Nablus and move to a new village under construction several kilometres away. Elon Moreh was the first Israeli settlement on occupied Arab land ordered to be dismantled by the High Court following an appeal by local Arabs whose land was confiscated for the establishment of the outpost. The settlers had previously rejected government orders to move to the new site, demanding that the legal status of Israeli settlements on the West Bank first be changed to avoid similar court cases in the future.

Britain, U.S. to consider Oman's weapons request

MUSCAT, Jan. 17 (Agencies) — Britain and the United States are considering a request by the Gulf state of Oman for more weapons, including fighter planes, missiles and minesweepers, to help defend the strategic Strait of Hormuz, a government spokesman said today.

The weapons were also needed for Oman's 14,000 strong armed forces to be better prepared to face any "invasion" from neighbouring Marxist South Yemen, the spokesman told Reuters.

He said Oman's ruler, Sultan Qabus Bin Said, asked for the weapons when British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington visited Oman last week. "Lord Carrington promised to examine the request," the spokesman said, adding that the U.S. was also looking into Oman's arms shopping list, which was submitted before the crisis in Afghanistan.

"The Sultan wants the weapons now, and will talk about the cost later," the spokesman said to stress the country's military needs.

The Soviet Action in Afghanistan has highlighted the importance of the Strait of Hormuz, the gateway to the Gulf which supplies about 70 per cent of the crude oil requirements of the industrialised countries.

The government spokesman said Oman had asked for 12 more British-made Jaguar multi-purpose jets to reinforce the 12 Jaguars and 11 near obsolete Hawker Hunter planes already in operation. It also wanted more of the existing air-to-air Sidewinder and ground-to-air Rapier missiles, 150 millimetre guns which could be fired at night and helicopters fitted with surveillance equipment.

The navy also needed additional minesweepers and fast boats to patrol Oman's coastline,

and "modest installations" at the 40-kilometre wide Hormuz Strait to serve as a forward base, the spokesman said.

Oman's concern for the security of the strait mounted when the Iranian revolution toppled the Shah, who had regarded himself as the Gulf's guardian. The Soviet incursion into Afghanistan under the terms of its friendship treaty with Kabul has heightened Oman's fear of South Yemen which also has a similar treaty with Moscow.

South Yemen had supported a 12-year leftist insurgency in Oman's southern Dhofar province until the rebellion was militarily crushed in December 1975.

"Oman at present is capable of dealing with an invasion from South Yemen provided it involved only South Yemenis. But if there was a massive invasion, including Cuban forces, Oman would have to call for help," the spokesman said.

Bahrain's foreign minister, on the other hand, was quoted today as saying the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan had opened a new colonial era and that Moscow's strategy was to get closer to the oil producing areas.

The minister, Sheikh Mohammad Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, said in an interview with the newspaper Akhbar Al Khaleej that the Gulf states should unite their forces and coordinate their strategies to prevent the region from becoming a centre of super-power conflict.

Defence of the area must be undertaken by the Gulf states themselves, he said.

"The Russian aggression in Afghanistan has ushered in a new colonial era and opened the door for any strong state to overthrow weaker states," Sheikh Mohammad said, according to the paper.

He denied foreign press reports that Washington had asked Bahrain to provide the U.S. with military bases, and said he had no information that any of the other Gulf states had given or promised to give such facilities.

Turkey reacted cautiously today to tough statements on United States contingency plans in the Middle East by U.S. Defence Secretary Harold Brown and National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski.

But the U.S. officials' remarks seemed likely to embarrass the two-month-old government of Mr. Suleyman Demirel, one week after it concluded the outline of an accord for continued American use of 26 military bases in Turkey.

Western diplomatic sources said the initialing of the accord last week reflected sudden flexibility by the Demirel government as a result of events in Iran and the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. But, with an eye on friendly relations with its Middle Eastern and fellow-Muslim neighbours, including Iran, the government insisted publicly that the agreement restricted the bases to "obligations arising from membership" in the 15-nation North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

Mr. Brzezinski's reference to a "cooperative security framework" in the Middle East, in an interview in the Wall Street Journal, seemed likely to revive widespread press speculation in Turkey, prevalent last week, that the U.S. favoured a new military alliance in the region to replace the Central Treaty Organisation (CENTO).

CENTO which linked Turkey, Iran and Pakistan and Britain and with the U.S. as an associate member, collapsed after the Iranian revolution and was disbanded last summer.

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U.S. seeks Olympic transfer Fighting breaks out in Kabul

NEW DELHI, Jan. 17 (Agencies) — Firing, apparently from heavy calibre guns, was heard from the direction of Kabul's International Airport today but there was no immediate explanation of the outbreak, travellers arriving here said.

It could not immediately be established if the firing came from the airport itself, but a plane of the Soviet airline Aeroflot took off for Moscow soon after it had begun.

Soviet troops have formed a defensive ring round the city with batteries of medium range howitzers and it seemed likely these were in operation, perhaps against infiltrating Muslim anti-government guerrillas.

Yesterday an aircraft was seen burning for several hours to the north of the runway at the airport, where hundreds of Soviet troops

are camped, backed by tanks. Afghan officials at the airport declined to say what the aircraft was, but Soviet Antonov transports have been landing regularly since Dec. 24 at Kabul.

Unconfirmed accounts said clashes were also reported near the Bala Hissar fort, site of an Afghan army mutiny in August of last year. Diplomats in Islamabad said the reports were sketchy and they had no details of the fighting.

Up to 85,000 Soviet troops are in Afghanistan following the coup on Dec. 27 which toppled former President Hafizullah Amin and installed Soviet-backed Babrak Karmal as Afghanistan's new leader.

In Peshawar, Pakistan, guerrilla spokesman said today Soviet aircraft dropped paratroopers and light tanks to back Afghan government forces battling Muslim insurgents in northeast Afghanistan.

Witnesses said that further south in the mountains bordering Pakistan, Afghan forces shelled positions occupied by the tribal irregulars who are fighting the Kabul government.

Western intelligence sources said the Soviet army in Afghanistan is leaving most of the fighting against the insurgents of Afghan forces. But in Badakhshan, in the northeast close to the Soviet frontier, Red Army troops do appear to be helping to stiffen the government resistance.

Guerrilla spokesmen said the

Soviet airdrop was made "in recent days" at Narin, near Kunduz which is on the road to Badakhshan from Kabul.

The guerrillas said both Soviet and insurgent forces suffered losses in the area. They said 6,000 men of the Afghan 20th division broke and deserted near Narin and the 5,000 Kalashnikov rifles and 20 truckloads of ammunition fell into insurgent hands.

Six Soviet advisers with this division were killed and so was Gul Sayed Wafa, governor of Takhar province, the guerrillas said.

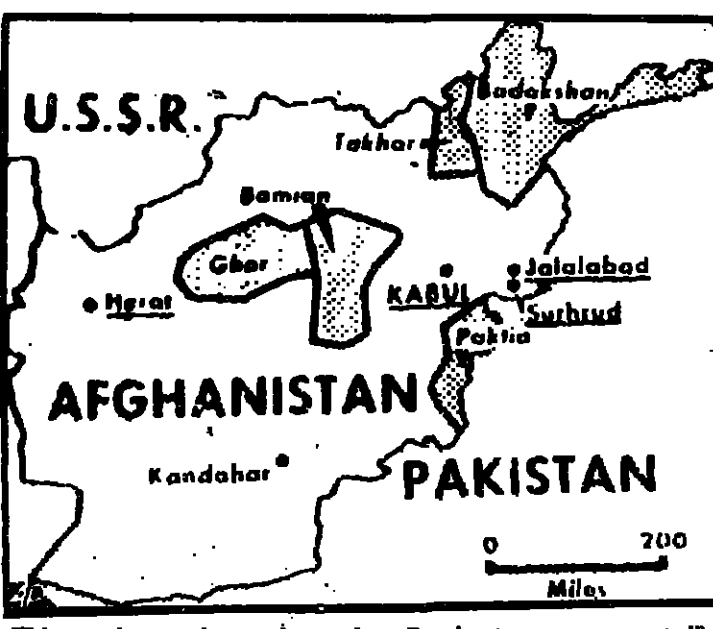
It is difficult to verify insurgent war communiques and a well placed Pakistani official said debriefing of Afghan refugees indicated a much lower level of resistance than exile spokesmen portray.

The sources said that hit and-run ambushes and murders of party officials were 'typical of the conflict, as was the desultory shelling of targets in Pakhtia province witnessed from close to the Pakistani frontier in the past 36 hours.

But the fighting in the northeast appears to be more intense, diplomats said.

Guerrilla spokesmen were surprised by the sensation created by U.S. reports that Soviet troops had moved close to the border with Iran in western Afghanistan. The guerrillas, and West European diplomats in Kabul said

(Continued on page 3)



This map locates the provinces where Russian troops are reportedly meeting armed resistance from Muslim Afghan insurgents. (AP wirephoto)

Afghanistan expels all U.S. newsmen

MOSCOW, Jan. 17 (R) — Afghanistan said today it was expelling all American correspondents for "gross interference in the affairs of a sovereign state."

The announcement, reported from Kabul by the Soviet News Agency Tass, was made by ruling Revolutionary Council, headed by President Babrak Karmal.

The announcement said the American reporters had been writing "inventions and insinuations, each one more clumsy than the one before. Their goal is to increase tension in our country, and disrupt the normal life of the Afghan people." It singled out James P. Sterbe of the New York Times, William Branigan of the Washington Post, James Dorsey of the Christian Science Monitor and the correspondents of the U.S. television networks.

"We cannot judge the activities of the above mentioned journalists as anything other than gross interference in the affairs of a sovereign state, the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan," the announcement went on. "For this reason the Revolutionary Council of the DRA has decided to expel American journalists from Afghanistan."

The expulsion of U.S. correspondents, believed to number between 30 and 50, was reported earlier today by diplomatic sources in New Delhi.

The Afghan government said the country would still be open to foreign journalists from all countries who would be offered cooperation to carry out "objective and truthful reporting."

The statement said it was natural for events in Afghanistan to attract world attention, and most press organs were reporting "objectively and benevolently" on the situation. "At the same time a campaign of malicious slanderous attacks on the DRA and its people continues in the United States, western countries and the People's Republic of China."

The statement gave no deadline for the Americans to leave the country.

In Washington, the U.S. state department said today the expulsion of the journalists was a flagrant violation of basic norms and international behaviour.

A state department spokesman said: "we find it (the expulsion order) a flagrant violation of basic norms and international behaviour. It's reprehensible and yet another indication of the absolute contempt for human rights that exists there."

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Queen Noor expecting

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—Her Majesty Queen Noor is expecting her first child in March, the Royal Court announced today. The Queen, who is 28, was married to His Majesty King Hussein in June 1978.

Austrian firm wins potash plant contract

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—An Austrian firm, Voest-Alpine, has won a \$107,684,622 contract to build a potash processing plant near the southern tip of the Dead Sea, the Arab Potash Company (APC) board director, Mr. Ali Khaswaneh, announced here today.

The Austrian government-owned firm won the contract in the face of strong competition from French, British and West German companies, Mr. Khaswaneh said. He said the firm, considered the biggest of its kind in

the world, will, according to the contract, complete building the plant in 24 months.

With the conclusion of this contract, APC has completed the issuing of tenders to firms to carry out various stages of the work at the company site, Mr. Khaswaneh said.

He added that three international marketing firms are on contract to sell the company's production over the next five years, with annual revenue estimated at \$200 million.

Refugee aid reviewed

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—The Minister of Reconstruction and Development, Mr. Omar Nabulsi, discussed at his office here today with the Director General of UNRWA affairs in Jordan, Mr. John Tanner, U.N. agency's standard of services to Palestinian

refugees in Jordan. They also reviewed UNRWA's deficit in the 1980 budget and a number of problems, among which was the treatment of refugees at government-owned hospitals.

Earlier, the minister met with representatives of refugees in the camps of Wadwat, Jabal Hussein, Baqa and Talbiyeh. They briefed the minister on general conditions at their camps and presented requests for improvements. Their complaints were mainly directed at food supplies, acceptance of refugee students at UNRWA vocational training centres and health services in the camps.

The minister raised the question of UNRWA's deficit and its services to the refugees at a meeting today with the British Ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Alan Urwick.

Mr. Nabulsi reiterated the importance of returning the Vienna-based headquarters of the U.N. agency to its main field of operations in the Middle East region, and urged Western countries and peace-loving nations to give aid to UNRWA so that it can carry on with its services for the Palestinian refugees.

During the meeting, Mr. Nabulsi also discussed with the ambassador promoting British-Jordanian cooperation and the ambassador offered his country's technical help and expertise to the Jordanian government in the field of social security.



King Hussein greets a well-wisher in Irbid

King tours Irbid Governorate

IRBID, Jan. 17 (JNA)—His Majesty King Hussein today made an inspection tour of a number of public and private institutions in Irbid Governorate.

The King's tour included the Ramtha border post, the Ramtha Sports Club, the Municipality of Irbid, the Irbid Police Station and the government house in Irbid.

During his meetings with people there, King

Hussein called for the promotion of agricultural industries which will provide job opportunities, contribute to economic growth and help in strengthening peoples' ties with their land and their allegiance to their country.

The King was accompanied on the visit by the Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, and the Chief of the Royal Court, Mr. Ahmad Al Lawzi.

ICJ organising international Islamic human rights seminar

By Steven Ross
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Jan. 17 — Mr. Niall MacDermot, secretary general of the Geneva-based International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), arrived in Amman Tuesday night from Damascus on the last leg of a trip to six Arab countries to set up an international Islamic seminar on human rights in the Muslim

world. The seminar, which Mr. MacDermot told the Jordan Times today would be held "not before December" of this year, would bring together lawyers, economists, sociologists, political scientists and other experts from all over the Muslim world in a series of plenary sessions and committee meetings. "Our goal is to get people to discuss with each other, not

merely to make speeches," Mr. MacDermot said.

The full sessions and meetings will be divided equally between, on the one hand, those on economic, social and cultural rights and, on the other hand, those on political rights. In addition to the delegates from the Muslim world, Mr. MacDermot said, there might be "a few Islamic experts" from the West.

Mr. MacDermot, who visited Tunis, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Syria before coming to Jordan, said that the "general consensus" was that the best place for the seminar would be either Kuwait or Amman.

The 27-year-old ICJ is a non-governmental organisation that has consultative status with the United Nations, UNESCO, the Council of Europe and other world bodies. Its object, Mr. MacDermot said, is "to promote the rule of law and the legal protection of human rights." It has no more than 40 members, all of them eminent jurists (legal experts), around the world. "The only part of the world in which we are not represented," he said, "is the Soviet bloc."

The commission combines equally promotional work, such as the human rights seminar, and activist work, such as investigations into and publicising human rights violations. It has three regular publications, and publishes studies and reports on situations such as the American hostage crisis in Iran.

Mr. MacDermot, a British citizen, has previously been a member of Parliament and, for four years, a member of the British cabinet. He became the ICJ secretary general nine years ago, succeeding Mr. Sean MacBride, now the head of the London-based human rights organisation Amnesty International.

He will leave Amman Friday morning.

Unpalatable notion

ISRAEL IS NOT noted for its reluctance to horn in on situations whenever it sees an advantage to be gained from so doing. Mr. Zbigniew Brzezinski's statement to the Wall Street Journal, that the U.S. is ready to take part in a "cooperative security framework for the Middle East," has elicited a quick response from the Israeli government.

An official spokesman in occupied Jerusalem let it be known Thursday that Israel was offering the United States its pick between a formal alliance or a less rigid arrangement. Mr. Begin and Mr. Weizman have already indicated that the U.S. was welcome to "facilities" in Israel, the official noted. "Israel is ready to work with the U.S., and if this means entering into some sort of regional agreement, we would have to first consider the overall plan. But basically we would be interested," he went on.

The prospect of Israeli troops coming to the defence of Iran against the Soviet Union may not be unpalatable to Mr. Brzezinski, but it should prove downright indigestible to the Iranians. An American-backed Israeli peace-keeping force in the region, whose real function would be to defend the status quo on the ground or alter it to Israel's favour, can only be a nightmarish spectre to the Arab states. That is obvious to the keenest intelligence.

It might not be so obvious to Mr. Brzezinski, not because he has shortcomings in the mental department, but because he is so obsessed with his visions of confrontation with the Soviet Union that regional confrontations do not matter. That may be the bird's eye view from Washington, but regional confrontations take on a much more alarming significance as one approaches the area where the dispute is rife.

Mr. Cyrus Vance, who is much less eager to don the garb of a cold war warrior, is nevertheless a pragmatist and is known to bend with the trend in the White House. If the Israelis manage to sell their ideas to Mr. Brzezinski, and he in turn sells them to President Carter, then not only will the two superpowers have gone back to the cold war era, but the Middle East conflict might burst into a conflagration that will defeat the entire purpose of a "cooperative security framework." It may buy security for Israel, but it won't do so for the Middle East.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RA'I: With Jordan one of the most important Islamic and Arab bastions, it is natural for it to take the initiative in studying the requirements of the current historical stage the Arab nation is passing through, its effects and how to deal with it in an enlightened and responsible way. That is why the seminar on Islamic thought which His Highness Crown Prince Hassan opened on Wednesday is being held.

Prince Hassan brought up in his speech the basic fact that Jordan has been aligned with Islamic principles since its establishment by late King Abdullah. This fact reveals the deep awareness and insight of the founder of the kingdom when he sensed trends opposed to the Arab nation at its outset and confronted them politically and by force when they threatened Jerusalem. He then was able to rescue the city of peace from the forces opposing peace and Islam.

Jordan's efforts to face the great challenge to the Islamic nation and the Arabs is represented by the intelligent role Jordan is playing under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein to have enlightened Islamic thought become the mode of thinking to lead the Arab nation in the battle of cultural challenge it is facing.

If the seminar on Islamic thought in Jordanian society is a new step on the path of facing the challenge, among its duties is establishing the role of Islamic thought in this decisive confrontation by having Islam be the inspiration for actions which will provide the clear vision and effective strength to confront the challenge.

AL DUSTOUR: The seminar which Prince Hassan opened on Wednesday is an intellectual and cultural event and a source of pride for Jordan. There are few countries in the Third World where public affairs are being discussed as frankly and openly as they are in Jordan.

The "Islamic phenomenon" which preoccupies the whole world these days is a phenomenon that requires objective study by leaders of Islamic societies. Overlooking it will not eliminate it and dealing with it from the position of hostility may deprive Islamic societies of the inherent goodness in Islam as a source of renaissance and revival. What the phenomenon requires is closer, open-minded and scientific scrutiny. This is what the seminar is trying to do.

If Islam constitutes a "problem" for Muslims in the sense that they cannot do without it yet cannot easily live according to its teachings, then the solution lies in utilising thought in opening the door for interpretation that can make Islam relevant to the contemporary world.



Her Majesty Queen Noor received in her office Thursday afternoon the Minister of Social Development Mrs. In'am Mufit. The minister explained to the Queen the duties of the new ministry with regard to child care and women's role in the development process in Jordan. The meeting was attended by the wife of the prime minister, Mrs. Layla Sharaf.

No decision made to take JDEC case before Hague

By Ron Cathell
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN, Jan. 17 — Minister of State Hassan Ibrahim said tonight Jordan has thrown its full support behind the Jerusalem District Electricity Company and has allocated funds to help it improve its services.

In a telephone interview, Mr. Ibrahim told the Jordan Times the government has decided "to support the company and offer all means to help it maintain its natural rights. But Jordan has made no decision to take the case before the International Court of Justice at the Hague."

Israel has served notice of its intention to take over the company by January, 1981. It bases this action on its claim to have

Amman one of 9 possible venues for new WHO regional HQ

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JT) — The transfer of the World Health Organisation's (WHO) Eastern Mediterranean regional headquarters from Alexandria, Egypt to another country in the region will be discussed at the 65th session of the WHO Executive Board now convening in Geneva.

Dr. Aram Yaghlian, Director of Foreign Relations at the Ministry of Health, told the Jordan Times today that he will leave for Geneva Saturday to represent Jordan, one of nine countries being considered as a possible venue for the new headquarters.

At the request of a majority of Arab members of WHO, the WHO General Assembly at its annual meeting last May took the decision to transfer the regional office from Egypt. Last September, a working group formed by the Executive Board visited all the countries offering to host the new office to study their suitability from the political, economic, social and manpower points of view.

Their findings have been reported to the Executive Board, which will discuss the matter further with representatives from each of the nine countries on or about Jan. 21.

The results will be presented to the WHO General Assembly, when it meets again this May. At that time it will take a final decision on where to transfer the regional office.

Besides Jordan, the following countries have also offered to host the Eastern Mediterranean regional headquarters: Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Pakistan and Syria.

annexed Arab Jerusalem, thereby becoming the sovereign authority over the city. This claim has received scant recognition internationally.

The JDEC's concession, granted during the British Mandate in Palestine, stipulates that the mandate authority has the right, at five-year intervals, to opt to buy out the company, after giving one year's notice. Israel claims that it is the successor of the British Mandate and has therefore acquired this right.

The chairman of the company's board, Mr. Anwar Nuseibeh, said tonight the JDEC was still considering ways to thwart an Israeli takeover, including presenting the case before the international court.

To do so, the company must be represented by a national government, but the JDEC has not yet decided on a course of action.

Mr. Hassan Ibrahim said Jordan will support the company, but the government has taken no decision at this time to present the case at the Hague. He said Jordan has allocated funds for the company and "will deliver them when the time is right, according to schedule."

Mr. Nuseibeh said the funds will go towards the purchase of more generators which will boost the company's electricity production, unless Israel prevents this. Israel has accused the company of being unable to supply enough power to meet the demand on it. Mr. Nuseibeh has pointed out that the solution was for the company to buy more generators, but Israel has been blocking the purchase.

Mr. Nuseibeh said that during a meeting yesterday of the joint committee on occupied territories affairs, consisting of representatives from Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the committee fully supported the electricity company and its plans for development.

PM assures private sector of government's full support

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA) — The Prime Minister, Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf, met at the Prime Ministry this evening with representatives from the private sector with whom he discussed the various aspects of the national economy, means of developing and increasing its efficiency and raising the standard of national production.

The prime minister expressed the government's support for stimulation of the private sector to enable it contribute more to the build-up of the national economy.



Dr. Zuhair Malhas, the Health Minister, presents a diploma to a new paramedic

74 paramedics graduate from training course

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—A group of 74 paramedics graduated today after completing a two-year government-sponsored training course at the Paramedical Institute.

Speaking during the graduation ceremony, the institute's director, Dr. Ahmad Khreis, outlined its achievements and development since 1973 when it was established.

With the graduation of this fifth group, Dr. Khreis said, the total number of graduates since 1973 reached 461. They specialised in eight different fields of practical medical training.

Another speaker was the Health Minister, Dr. Zuhair Malhas, who later distributed diplomas to the graduates.

Local News Briefs

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA) — The Minister of Reconstruction and Development, Mr. Omar Nabulsi, discussed the status of Jordanians working in Libya at a meeting held here today with the Libyan ambassador to Jordan, Mr. Saleh Senousi. The minister urged speedy ratification of a labour agreement initiated by the two countries in Tripoli last April. The ambassador, for his part, pointed out the importance of opening a Jordanian consulate in Benghazi to handle the affairs of Jordanian labourers working there. The labour agreement was prompted by the fact that a large number of Jordanians are currently employed in various Libyan development projects.

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—A Taiwanese trade delegation left Amman today after concluding a several-day visit to Jordan. During the visit, the delegation held talks with officials from the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce and the Amman Chamber of Industry on increasing the volume of trade between Jordan and Taiwan. The delegation also toured a number of factories in the country.

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA)—The Director General of the Amman-based International Arab Bureau for Narcotics, Col. Youssef Gharaybeh, left for Morocco today to take part in the bureau's executive council meeting starting there on Monday. During the four-day meeting, the council will review the bureau's programme for 1980 and participation in international seminars on narcotics to be held during the year. After the meeting, Col. Gharaybeh will go to Paris for a meeting with the secretary general of Interpol and then with the International Narcotics Control Board in Geneva on cooperation between the Arab bureau and the two international organisations in the control of narcotics.

KARAK, Jan. 17 (JNA) — An inoculation campaign against measles is going on in the Karak Governorate, the director of the Karak

Health Department, Dr. Salim Imadi, said here today. He said over the past two weeks some 3,200 children between nine months and five years of age have been inoculated in the governorate. Mothers and child care centres as well as hospitals in the governorate are being used as inoculation centres, Dr. Imadi said.

AMMAN, Jan. 17 (JNA) — The next five-year agricultural plan will be reviewed by the Ministry of Agriculture's planning committee today. The committee, chaired by the Minister of Agriculture, Dr. Qase Al Rimawi, also discussed the setting-up of more poultry farms around the country, the marketing of poultry products locally and abroad and the importation of agricultural seeds for farmlands.

ATTENTION!!! Short term residents

Shepherd Hotel is now offering bed and breakfast on month basis for JD 150 including TV.

Call 39197-8 for more information.

WHAT'S GOING ON

French Film

The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Luis Bunuel entitled "La mort en ce jardin" starring Simone Signoret and Michel Piccoli. The film starts at 7:30 p.m.

Handwritten text in Arabic script: "لا بد من العلم"

Jordan Weekly Calendar

(Week of January 18 - 24)

EXHIBITIONS

CONTINUING: The documentary exhibition which was on display at the French Cultural Centre during December continues until January 27. The exhibition is on "The History of the French Song." This display can be seen during regular centre hours.

SUNDAY, January 20: The Department of Culture and Arts, in cooperation with the Embassy of Rumania, presents an exhibition of contemporary small Rumanian sculpture. The exhibition opens at 4:00 p.m. at the Art Gallery, Ministry of Culture and Youth, and continues daily until January 27.

MONDAY, January 21: Continuing the sequence of exhibitions on contemporary German art, the Goethe Institute, in cooperation with the Department of Culture and Arts, presents an exhibition of works from art centres in Berlin and Hamburg. The exhibition opens officially at 5:00 p.m., and continues daily during regular hours until January 26.

FILMS

FRIDAY, January 18: The French Cultural Centre presents a film by Luis Bunuel, with dialogue by Raymond Queneau and music by Paul Misraki. The film is entitled "La mort en ce jardin" and it stars Simone Signoret, Charles Vanel, Georges Marchal and Michel Piccoli. The story is about a group of diamond prospectors who revolt against a government decree preventing them from prospecting. A fight ensues, and the adventurers try to escape through a forest, but are caught, one by one, in ambush. The film is in colour with Arabic subtitles. It starts at 7:30 p.m. and is repeated at the same time on Saturday and Sunday.

TUESDAY, January 22: The Goethe Institute presents a film by Arthur Maria Rabenalt entitled "Vergissmichnicht" (1958) starring Sabine Bethmann, Erich Winn and Rudolf Vogel. The film is about a young German woman in Rome who falls in love with an Italian tenor called Morani. The film is in colour and is subtitled in English. Starting time is at 8:00 p.m.

AUDIO-VISUAL SPECTACLE

TUESDAY, Jan. 22: The French Cultural Centre presents a second showing of an audio-visual presentation on the French song. Included in this show is the second part of a presentation shown last week entitled "The Young French Song." This presentation starts at 5:30 p.m.

LECTURES

TUESDAY, January 22: The Friends of Archaeology are holding their annual meeting at the British Council at 6:30 p.m. At the meeting, Dr. Adnan Hadidi of the Department of Antiquities will talk about activities and policies of the department, and Dr. James Sauer of ACOR will talk about what archaeology is and what it does. This meeting is open to the public.

ARCHAEOLOGY TRIP

FRIDAY, January 25: Dr. Basil Hennessey of the University of Sydney will guide a tour of Pella in the Jordan Valley. Meet at the Department of Antiquities Registration Centre at 8:30 a.m., and bring a picnic lunch.

TODAY'S WEATHER LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

It will be partly cloudy, with a light increase in temperature and westerly moderate winds. In qaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Overnight	Daytime
low	high
Amman	8 10
qaba	3 20
deserts	2 13
Jordan Valley	9 16

U.S. dollar	292.50/295.50
West German mark	170.50/171.50
Swiss franc	185.20/186.30
French franc	72.70/73.10
Italian lire	36.50/36.70
(for every 100)	
Japanese yen	123.30/124.00
(for every 100)	
Dutch guilder	154.60/155.50
Belgium franc	104.90/105.50
Swedish crown	70.80/71.20

AMMAN STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

Name of Company	Par Value	Number Traded	High	Low	Closing Price
Jordan Dairy Co.	JD 1,000	1270	1,350	1,350	1,350
Islamic Bank	JD 1,000	1270	2,560	2,560	2,560
Bank of Jordan	JD 5,000	2492	12,100	12,100	12,100
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	31641	1,660	1,620	1,650
Investing Bank	JD 1,000	150	1,600	1,600	1,600
Jordan Kuwait Bank	JD 1,000	4895	2,140	2,000	2,140
etra Bank	JD 10,000	150	15,850	15,850	15,850
Arab Investment Bank	JD 1,000	200	1,500	1,500	1,500
airo Amman Bank	JD 5,000	350	10,800	10,800	10,800
Industrial, Commercial and Agricultural Co.	JD 1,000	3156	2,950	2,900	2,900
Jordan General Mining Co.	JD 1,000	1750	1,370	1,370	1,370
Arabian Investment and International Trading Co. Ltd.	JD 5,000	100	4,850	4,850	4,850
Arab International Hotels Co.	JD 1,000	500	0,850	0,850	0,850
Arab Company for Aluminium Industries	JD 1,000	2935	1,420	1,420	1,420
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	9339	1,500	1,500	1,500
Arab Dawa Development and Investment Co.	JD 1,000	3856	3,850	3,800	3,800
International Construction and Investment	JD 1,000	900	1,020	1,010	1,020
Arab Financial Corporation (Jordan)	JD 10,000	100	10,950	10,950	10,950
Jordan Worsteds Mills Co.	JD 1,000	2500	3,250	3,250	3,250
Jordan Cement Factories Co.	JD 10,000	92	21,000	20,850	20,850
Jordan Ceramic Industries Co.	JD 1,000	1100	1,200	1,200	1,200
Jordan Glass Factories Co.	JD 1,000	800	0,820	0,820	0,820
Jordan Spinning and Weaving Co.	JD 1,000	3200	0,880	0,880	0,880
Jordan Phosphate Mines Co.	JD 1,000	719	3,150	3,150	3,150
Jordan Petroleum Refinery Co.	JD 5,000	2456	9,700	9,600	9,700

Total Volume Traded on Thursday, Jan. 17, 1980: JD 189,203

Total number of shares traded: 74,801

Government Development Bonds

Year of Maturity	Par Value	Number Traded	Volume Traded	High	Low
30	JD 10,000	18	181	10,100	10,100
37	JD 10,000	1300	13013	10,010	10,010
38	JD 10,000	12	121	10,100	10,100

Total Volume Traded on Thursday, Jan. 17, 1980: JD 13,315

Total number of bonds traded: 1,330

The Villager: Literary outlet for Yarmouk students

By Norah Barger
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

IRBID, Jan. 17 — The Jordan Times can no longer claim to be the only English language paper in Jordan. Last November, in Irbid, a new one went to press.

Called the Villager, the newspaper is the inspiration of the English Department faculty at Yarmouk University.

"Students used to give us stories they had written outside of class to look at," Dr. June Kane, an English professor and editor of the Villager, told the Jordan Times. "Since they do not get much practice writing in class, we decided to start a paper to give them a forum for their work and to encourage them to do more."

The result has been hugely successful. The first paper, issued without a name, had a photocopy printing of 150. By the time the second issue was printed, a week later, the paper had a name and included its first letter to the editor—from Dr. Adnan Badran, the university's president, offering his best wishes for the newspaper. An issue has appeared every week since then.

The tenth issue—of which 400 copies have been printed—has come out this week. "I think we have reached our limit for now," Dr. Kane said. "The paper is now

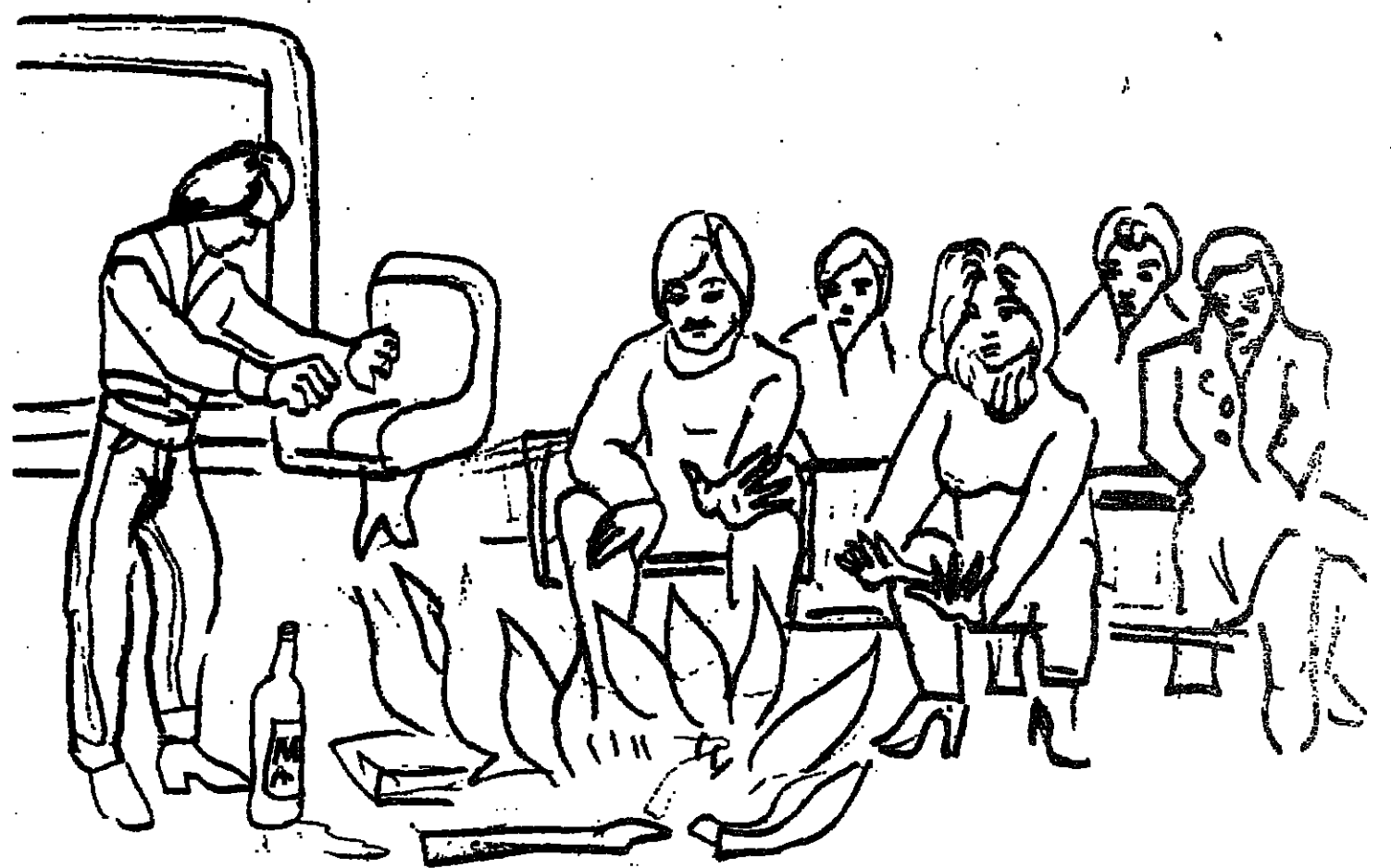
professors, most of whom do not miss the chance of exhorting their pupils to study harder.

Pros and poetry appear to be among the most popular contributions. Some recount experiences that are most likely autobiographical. One student has contributed a very competent translation of one of Jean La Fontaine's fables from the French, which is also included. Another has written a science fiction story as well as a description of a trip he once took to Kenya.

However, the majority of these works have lost love or they lost homeland as their themes. The former tend to be bittersweet and to contain mild criticism of a society that does not encourage those who love to marry. The latter, usually tragic, often urge on efforts to regain the homeland.

Not all contributions are so sober, however. Recently, the Villager has carried a spate of good-humoured contributions that satirise conditions at the Village building—the lack of central heating and sometimes water and the monotonous food served at its cafeteria.

The reach of the paper is wide enough that the articles have come to the attention of the kitchen staff. They are now, Dr. Kane, in the process of composing a letter to the editor (with help from



A drawing that appeared in a recent issue of The Villager. It accompanied a satirical poem on the lack of central heating and other problems of the English Department building called The Village.

the students) in response to the charges of bad food and to air their own grievances—such as students who play soccer with the cafeteria's coffee cups.

The catalyst for the paper has obviously been Dr. Kane, an energetic, personable professor who understates her role in producing the paper. "I am the only faculty member who can type and none of the students can," she demurred.

While other students and some professors help edit contributions, she does the final editing as she types. The final result is given to Dr. Ghassan Maleh, head of the English department to look at before it is printed. Dr. Maleh is said to be very enthusiastic about the project and so far has asked only once that something be removed from the final copy.

The attitude of spirited col-

laboration between students and faculty, is evident not only in The Villager but also in other activities of the department. This week, for example, they are putting on the play, "Shadow of a Gunman" by Sean O'Casey. Although the cast includes both students and professors, it is directed by a student whom professors say always has the final word.

The activities in the department are so popular that they often attract students from other departments to contribute. Recently, some have approached Dr. Kane with works they have written in Arabic that they would like published in The Villager. She is now working out arrangements whereby English students can translate these works and both can appear side-by-side in the paper.

There is little doubt that the paper has increased the prestige of

the department—professors have even begun to use The Villager as a teaching tool in lower level classes.

Explained Dr. Jan Carruthers, one of the professors: "Here, English is the sort of thing you do when you don't know what else to do, and it's often at the bottom of the list of what to major in." (Currently 250 out of 3,600 Yarmouk students take it as a major). "But our activities have caused more students to think seriously about English. We have even had a student from biology and one from physics transfer to our department," he added.

Even if The Villager does not succeed in convincing others to major in English, it has succeeded in getting them to read it. One of the paper's occasional student opinion pieces urged that Jordan's schools be made co-educational.

The piece elicited numerous responses, two of which were printed, one pro and one con.

"Students who had written arguing against the article later thanked me for running a letter representing their viewpoint. We don't aim at creating controversies but rather we try to make the students think," Dr. Kane said.

That the newspaper has presented a forum for students to do just that, think, and to have their thoughts taken seriously by their professors and peers, perhaps largely accounts for its success.

Yarmouk does, in fact, print a bi-monthly newspaper in Arabic but it just publishes, said one student, rather critically, news of the sort one gets in the usual Jordanian papers. In his mind, at least, there was no doubt that The Villager was the more interesting of the two publications.

Fighting breaks out in Kabul

(Continued from page 1)

nearly one week ago that two Soviet divisions were positioned close to both the Iranian and Pakistani frontiers, at Heart, Shindand and Kandahar.

Meanwhile, the Kabul government has hinted that it may improve pay and conditions for the armed forces in an apparent fresh bid to rally military support and prevent desertions.

The hint came in an appeal to officers and men of the army and air force believed to have been read to all troops in the past few days and published by the only two newspapers now appearing in the country.

The appeal said that "adequate attention" would be paid to the material and spiritual needs of officers and men. "The lives of your families will be improved," it added.

British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington said today both India and Britain wanted to see Soviet forces out of Afghanistan but had no ready-made formula to achieve this.

Speaking after talks with Premier Indira Gandhi and other Indian leaders, he said both sides were concerned at the dangers to the stability of the region, but disagreed on "the cure of it all."

Lord Carrington told a news conference that western plans to supply arms to Pakistan in no way threatened India, which fears that they might be used against it. But Indian External Affairs Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao urged Britain to use its influence to halt and reverse what he called "dangerously disturbing trends" in India's neighbourhood.

Lord Carrington was due to fly home tomorrow at the end of a five-nation Middle East and Southwest Asian tour to discuss the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan which he said "should not go unrecognised and uncondemned." Previously he visited Turkey, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan.

Meanwhile the Carter Administration has embarked on a campaign to wrest the 1980 summer Olympics from Moscow in reprisal for Soviet intervention in Afghanistan.

Although various Olympic officials have said it is too late to move the Olympics, President Carter and his senior aides have stated unanimous "personal" views that the games should be taken out of Moscow or boycotted.



An Afghan rebel prays for God's help in fighting Soviet troops

The quest is unprecedented and likely to succeed only if it gains support quickly in the United States, West Europe and Muslim third world countries.

Practically no other step, a senior state department aide told reporters, would have more impact on Moscow than a boycott of the summer games by a large number of countries.

U.S. officials concede that none of the economic, diplomatic or other steps taken or contemplated are likely to force Soviet with-

drawal from Afghanistan. But they are intended to exact the maximum political price for the intervention and to deter similar action in future.

In Bonn, Chancellor Helmut Schmidt today assured the United States of West Germany's full support for sanctions imposed by Washington against the Soviet Union and Iran.

Mr. Schmidt said the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan and the holding of U.S. embassy personnel as hostages in

Tehran were breaches of international law.

If the United States considered it necessary to implement the measures already announced against Iran, "then it can rely on the support of West Germany as an absolutely trustworthy ally and friend," the chancellor said in a parliamentary debate. "We know that this will mean economic sacrifices for us," he added.

Mr. Schmidt also pledged West German support for U.S. measures against the Soviet Union, especially within the framework of the European Community and the coordinating committee for east-west trade policy, which maintains a watch on the export of strategic goods by non-communist countries to communist states.

He said the "occupation" of Afghanistan meant only a few hundred kilometres separated Soviet forces from the Indian Ocean, the Gulf and the Middle Eastern oil-producing states, giving the Soviet Union additional leverage in that area. But it also meant Moscow "has in a way isolated itself as never before from the rest of the world, mainly from the third world, the blue-free states and the developing nations."

Nevertheless, detente and disarmament policies should be continued, the chancellor said.

Despite the events in Afghanistan, Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher told parliament detente must continue. The tension caused by the "cold-blooded" Soviet intervention must not be answered by a policy of tension in Europe, he said.

The Soviet Union reacted by making it clear today it expects West Germany to take a major part in blunting President Carter's campaign for sanctions against Moscow over Afghanistan.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda, in a despatch from Bonn headlined "stab in the back," said the unpredictability of U.S. foreign policy was becoming progressively more risky for western Europe.

The Bonn story depicted West Germany as increasingly worried by American "adventurism" which was putting at risk the political and economic gains of a decade of detente with the east.

West Germany is already Moscow's biggest western trading partner, accounting for nearly one-fifth of its imports from the capitalist world. In Moscow's eyes it is likely to take on even greater importance as a supplier of

technology for the faltering Soviet economy following President Carter's curbs on U.S. exports to the Soviet Union.

Pravda and the official Tass News Agency have quoted prominent West German bankers and business leaders as saying they have no intention of breaking trade with the Soviet Union.

Similar optimism, at least on the surface, is being expressed about the Moscow Olympics. While there has been no comment on the latest reports from Washington, Tass has quoted sports officials and athletes from around the world as saying the games must go on as normal.

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said today the British government wants the Olympic games moved from Moscow in protest at the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. She called for concerted action by Britain and its allies to persuade the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to move the games to another venue.

Politicians from both major parties have urged that Britain should try to get the games moved.

European Community ministers will meet next week to discuss reprisals against the Kremlin for its action in Afghanistan. But the IOC president, Lord Killanin, has said it would be impossible to move the games now. They are due to start in July.

Japan agreed today to comply with a U.S. request for cooperation with American moves in Iran and Afghanistan, according to government sources in Tokyo.

Former Under Secretary of State Philip Habib, special envoy of the U.S. government, conveyed the U.S. request to cooperate in economic sanctions against Iran at a meeting with Acting Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito at the foreign ministry, they said.

Mr. Habib also sought Japanese cooperation in solving problems arising out of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and expansion of Japanese economic aid to Pakistan, they said.

Mr. Ito, who is also chief cabinet secretary, told Mr. Habib Japan has strongly opposed Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan, because it is against international law, and is also against the holding of American hostages in Tehran.

Mr. Ito pointed out, however, that Japan has close economic relations with Iran and has outstanding territorial, fishery, and other problems with its neighbour the Soviet Union, they said.

Australia, New Zealand lead World Bowls

MELBOURNE, Jan. 17 (R) -- Australia and New Zealand were the only unbeaten countries after four rounds of the pairs event in the World Bowls Championships at Frankston here today. England and Scotland were the only nations with the maximum eight points in the triples championship. In the Leonard Trophy points score for overall performance, Australia and New Zealand were equal leaders. Australia's pairs team of Alf Sandercock and Peter Rheuben have hit top form with wins over England, Fiji, Kenya and Canada.

Australian manager Jack Spear said: "This pair have gradually improved. Peter Rheuben is playing in magnificent form. He is playing with confidence and getting his shots." New Zealand's pair, Phil Skoglund and Kevin Darling, have won 26-17 against Ireland, 20-17 against Hong Kong, 21-13 against Zambia and 22-15 against Malawi.

Four teams have six points in the pairs event -- Jersey, the United States, Wales and Western Samoa. One of the most strenuously-fought matches today was the triples duel between Wales and Fiji, which lasted four hours and finished under floodlights in drizzling rain. Fiji won 21-20. The teams could not distinguish between the two closest bowls on the ninth end and called for official adjudication. Three umpires with a torch took 10 minutes to decide that they could not separate the bowls either and no score was recorded for that end.

England's triples team of Jim Hobday, Tony Alcock and David Bryant continued their winning run after their one-shot win over Australia yesterday. Today they beat Malawi 22-11, Wales 18-11 and Hong Kong 25-6. Scots John Summers, David McGill and Willie McQueen defeated the United States 20-8, Jersey 35-13 and Swaziland 21-12 to maintain their 100 per cent record.

Kenyan teams to meet in soccer final

BLANTYRE, Jan. 17 (R) -- Kenya's top two teams, league champions Gor Mahia and Basulyha, the defending champions, will meet here in the final of the East and Central Africa Soccer Clubs' Championship on Sunday. Gor Mahia sprang a major surprise in the semi-final last night when they knocked out home favourites Limbe Leaf Wanderers 3-1 on penalties after the teams were tied 1-1 after extra time. It was a game Wanderers could and should have won. They took the lead after 15 minutes when Kenyan goalkeeper Dan Odhiambo misjudged a 30 metres shot from David Mpesi and the ball soared over his head into the net. With 15 minutes to go, the Kenyans broke away and Sammy Owing netted a shock equaliser. Extra time brought no further scoring and the game went into a penalty shoot-out. Once again Wanderers shooting was off target and the capacity crowd in the Kamuzu Stadium was silent as Gor Mahia qualified 3-1. Abaluhya, who won the trophy in Mogadishu last year, were also taken to extra time earlier in the day by Zambia's Green Buffaloes before winning 1-0.

Boxing official opposes olympic boycott

BUDAPEST, Jan. 17 (R) -- The president of the International Amateur Boxing Association, Bernard Restout, said today he would oppose any attempt to boycott the Olympic Games in Moscow in protest against Soviet action in Afghanistan. Mr. Restout, from France, is in Budapest for a meeting of the European Amateur Boxing Association, which he also heads.

JORDAN TIMES SPORTS ROUNDUP

World Series Cricket Cup

SYDNEY, Australia, Jan. 17 (AP) -- The West Indies cricket team does not plan to use batsmen Viv Richards and Gordon Greenidge and pace bowler Joel Garner in the Benson and Hedges World Series Cup match against Australia at the Sydney Cricket Ground on Friday, the team's manager said. But the tour selectors will not settle on a line-up until just before the start of the match. With nothing but prize money resting on the outcome the West Indies are already in the final against England -- the selectors today took out the three stage players and named a squad of 13. And with the three-match final coming up before the third test in Adelaide, it seems likely that the reserves, opening batsman Larry Gomes, off-spinner Derek Parry and wicketkeeper David Murray, will play tomorrow.

"We don't want to take any chances," Willie Rodriguez, the West Indies manager, said of the trio's omission. Garner is fit, but Richards is still plagued by a groin injury and Greenidge collected a nasty blow on the collarbone when he attempted to hook England paceman John Lever in the one-day match in Adelaide Wednesday. X-rays of the opening batsman were taken in Adelaide, but he is suffering only severe bruising.

"We will be trying our best," Rodriguez said, allaying fears that tomorrow's match would be nothing more than a romp. Greg Chappell, the Australian captain, is also keen for Australia to turn in a good performance as a prelude to the test beginning in Adelaide on Saturday. But he was shaking his head in disappointment over the continually poor state of the practice wickets. "The wickets in the nets were dry and dusty on Tuesday and today they are wet and sticky," Chappell said.

Geoff Hunt ranks first in squash

LONDON, Jan. 17 (R) -- Geoff Hunt of Australia heads the latest world ranking list issued by the International Squash Players' Association here yesterday. Hunt, world champion, and winner of the British Open for a sixth time last April, stays top despite restricting his tournament appearances. Pakistan players fill the next five places. Former British Open champion Qamar Zaman remains second and Mohibullah Khan is back at number three helped by his triumph in last month's Masters Championship in Karachi. Hiddy Jahan is ranked fourth and former world amateur title holder Magsood Ahmed moves up to fifth, ahead of Gogi Alauddin.

Chappell to play against Western Australia

ADELAIDE, Australia, Jan. 17 (AP) -- Ian Chappell will lead South Australia in the Sheffield Shield match against Western Australia, starting at the WACA ground in Perth on Saturday. Chappell, whose withdrawal on fitness grounds from the Australian team to play West Indies in a limited over international tomorrow has angered selectors and supporters, was cleared to play for his state by the South Australian cricket Association's medical officer. The SACA doctor diagnosed Chappell's problem as a back strain and agreed that the former Australian captain would not have been fit to play in tomorrow's one-day match.

The medical report said, however, that with proper treatment, Chappell would be fit to play in the Shield match, and he flew to Perth with the South Australian team tonight. His withdrawal from the Australian team was on the grounds that his back injury would have hampered his ability to play in the Shield game straight after a long flight from Sydney tomorrow morning.

Chappell, 36, has had a series of bruises with the Australian cricket board. Selection for any Australian cricket team takes the form of an invitation to play. Chappell has rejected that invitation. The fact that he has pulled out of today's game and that he is not available for the Pakistan tour may decide the selectors in favour of overlooking Chappell for the remaining tests against West Indies and England.

But Chappell will leave the selectors in an awkward situation if he scores well in Perth. Australia may have won the Test series against England, but the series against West Indies is still alive, and Chappell's batting could be vital in helping to square the series at one test all.

India 375 for seven

MADRAS, Jan. 17 (R) -- India's cricketers put themselves in an unassailable position today in the fifth test, scoring 375 for seven in reply to Pakistan's first innings total of 272. Skipper Sunil Gavaskar laid the foundation for the score with a hard-worked-for 166, including 15 fours and a six. Only two days' play remain -- tomorrow is a rest day -- and it seems unlikely that Pakistan, one down in the six-test series, can snatch a win.

Gavaskar's knock was never exhilarating but it sustained the innings at a time when it looked fragile yesterday. He was eventually out 25 minutes before stumps giving Qasim an easy catch at third slip off Imran. It was his 23rd test century and he has now amassed more than 5,500 runs. India resumed this morning at 161 for four, and did not lose a wicket until an hour after lunch when Yashpal Sharma was clean bowled by Iqbal Qasim.

Sailing on dry land



"Landsailing", a sport combining some of the thrills and spills of motor racing with the grace and beauty of dinghy sailing, is developing rapidly in Britain with the introduction of this new "Windskate" craft seen here during recent trials. Windskate is basically a dinghy on three wheels. Its low centre of gravity makes it extremely safe, so that cornering and braking can be carried out at almost any speed without capsizing. Made from a combination of steel, aluminium and glass fibre, the craft is light but extremely robust and is designed to travel at about twice the prevailing wind speed. To stop the craft the pilot simply steers into the wind and releases the sail. It will then cruise to a halt in the same manner as a sailing craft. Alternatively the sail can be used as a brake by backing it against the wind. The craft is 5.13 metres high, 1.98 metres wide and 2.45 metres long. It has a sail area of 5 square metres and folds down into a bag for transport on a car roof rack. Windskate can be used on any reasonably firm surface -- beaches, discussed airfields, salt flats or short cropped grass. Larger wheels can be fitted for use on rougher ground. There is also a version for ice and snow with a skate that bolts onto the existing axles. This is particularly fast and requires a larger area than the wheeled version. (COI photo)

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اسمك في ايدك

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JAN. 18, 1980

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a day for you to consider the ways and the means by which you are able to modernize your personal properties. An unexpected opportunity could come your way now.

RIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Study changes that have occurred around you and use them to your finest advantage. Stop being so critical of others.

AURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Know where you are going in your career, so take the right steps to get there in a cheerful manner.

EMINI (May 21 to June 21) You are very much alive and active now and can accomplish a great deal. Take the steps to improve your health.

DOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Find better modern methods for handling regular routines. Be more thoughtfulness to a loyal friend.

SO (July 22 to Aug. 21) If you listen to the sound advice of a higher-up, you can count on much success in your endeavor. Strive for happiness.

IRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You have many tasks to do and can finish them off if you buckle down and apply yourself. Be clever handling your finances.

IBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Give more time and effort particular talent you have so you can have added in the future. Keep busy and you are happy.

JORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Show more devotion to your members and be more cheerful at home. Don't be too time with unimportant matters.

AGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Obtain the data needed from the right sources. A financial expert can help you with a money problem you may have.

APRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Contacting close ties can help you solve a problem at this time is wise. Steps to improve your appearance.

QUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study yourself carefully and you will know how to improve your self-image. A person who wastes your time.

ISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Having a discussion with users will help you to formulate a plan that could give added abundance in the days ahead.

GOREN BRIDGE

CHARLES H. GOREN
and OMAR SHARIF
1978 by Chicago Tribune

West vulnerable. South

NORTH
♦ Void
♦ A J 10 6 2
♦ A 7 5 2
♦ Q J 8 7
♦ 4
♦ J 9 8 7 5 3
♦ 7 4 3
♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ K 10 9 2

EAST
♦ J 9 8 7 5 3
♦ 7 4 3
♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ K 10 9 2

DEAL
A 7 BESOUTH
♦ K Q 4 2
♦ K 9 5
♦ K Q J
♦ A 6 3
♦ 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2
♦ K 10 9 2

PLAY
West North East
Pass 2 0 Pass
Pass 4 NT Pass
Pass 5 0 Pass
Pass Pass Pass
ing lead: Five of ♠.

NOTES
When we were 9 years old, "Golden Gate" meant "Golden Gate" in Washington. But 9-year-old Tishug Hsieh of New York City is already a veteran of all national "bridge" (other kind) champion. His performance on and from the Summer held at the Hilton in Las Vegas during August would have been most experienced.

opening bid showed points and North's use was a transfer bid.

South obliged and North, for reasons best known to himself, launched into Blackwood with a void, and then subsided in five hearts. Now Doug recounted his points and found that he had more than he had promised, so he chose to go on to six hearts.

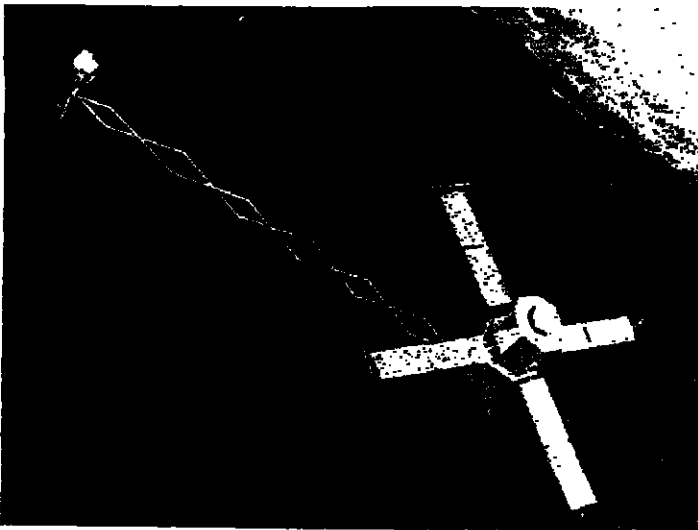
West was quite delighted about his defensive prospects. The opening lead of the five of clubs was covered by the jack, king and ace. At trick two Doug led the nine of hearts and let it run, getting the bad news of the 5-0 trump break. That alone might have unnerved the average declarer, but Doug never lost his cool.

He switched to the king of spades. West covered and dummy ruffed. Declarer returned to his hand with the king of diamonds, cashed the queen of spades, discarding a club from dummy, then ruffed a spade. After cashing the queen of clubs, Hsieh won the next two tricks with the queen and jack of diamonds.

Now West was down to nothing but four trumps, and declarer already had nine tricks in the bank. He led his last spade. West could only ruff helplessly and dummy overruffed. The last diamond in Las Vegas during August would have been most experienced.

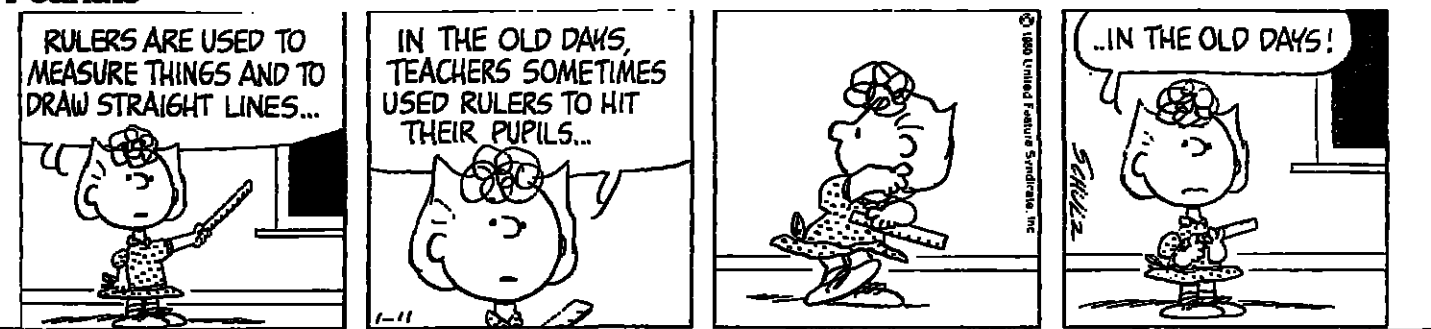
Not bad at all. Watch out for this kid when he turns 10!

Mapping Earth's magnetism

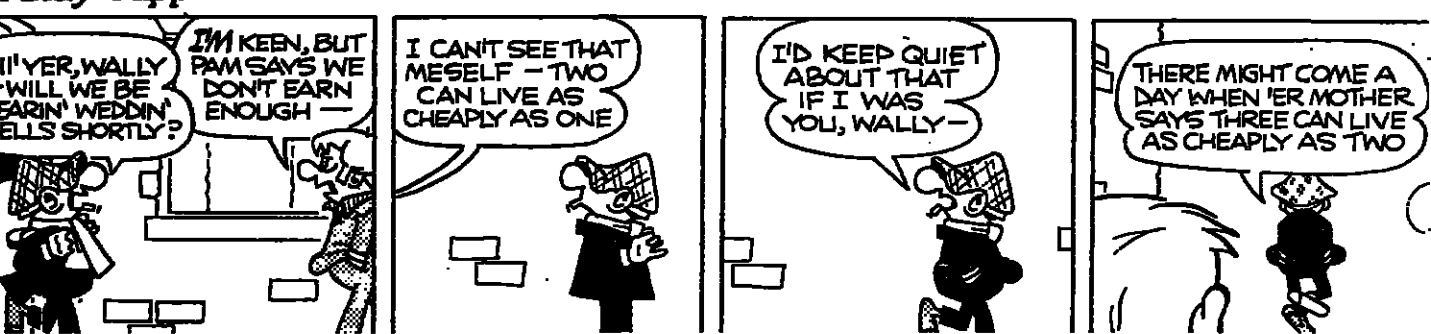


Magsat, the first spacecraft specifically designed to map Earth's magnetic field and crustal anomalies, is shown in this drawing. Launched into near-polar orbit from California, it carries instruments to record both the magnitude and direction of the forces. The instruments are deployed at the end of a six-metre boom to avoid interference from the craft's internal electronics. Manager of the project is the Goddard Space Flight Centre in Maryland. ICA photo

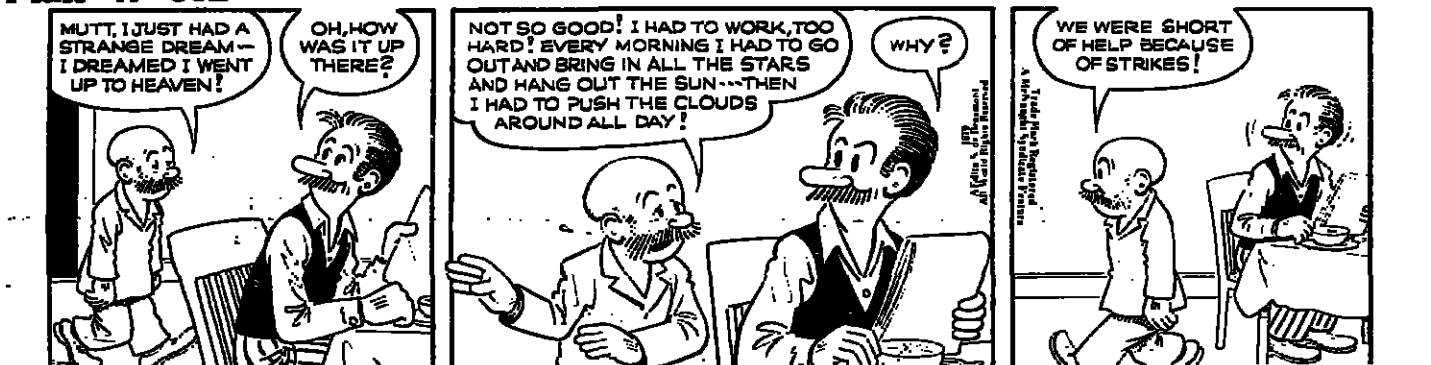
Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Flintstones



JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION

CHANNEL 3
10:00 Koran
10:15 Cartoons
10:30 Children's programme
11:00 Religious programme
11:30 The Waltons
12:15 Thrillers
13:30 Religious programme
14:10 In Search of
14:30 Soccer
15:00 Behind the Scene
16:10 All emotions great and small
16:45 Arabic series
17:00 Arabic series
17:30 Iron Horse
18:30 Arabic series
19:15 Religious Seminar
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local programme on Children
21:10 Arabic series
22:15 Lou Grant
23:00 News in Arabic

CHANNEL 6
18:30 French programme
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy
21:10 The Makenzie Affair
22:00 News in English
22:15 Lou Grant

AMMAN AIRPORT

ARRIVALS:

6:30 Jeddah
7:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
7:40 Kuwait, Doha
7:50 Cairo (EA)
8:55 Athens
10:00 Beirut
11:30 Baghdad (IA)
12:05 Kuwait (KAC)
12:35 Tripoli, Benghazi (LN)
12:45 Jeddah, Medina (SDI)
18:00 Paris
18:15 New York, Amsterdam
18:45 Madrid, Athens
19:15 Rome (AZ)
19:45 Beirut (MEA)
19:55 London, Vienna
20:15 Frankfurt
21:35 Frankfurt, Munich, Damascus (LH)
22:15 Damascus
00:45 Cairo

DEPARTURES:

7:30 Beirut
8:00 Agaba
8:05 Damascus, London (BA)
8:15 Beirut (MEA)
8:55 Cairo (EA)
10:15 Frankfurt
11:30 Athens, Copenhagen
11:40 Amsterdam, New York, Houston
12:30 Baghdad (IA)
13:00 Kuwait (KAC)
13:30 Cairo
13:35 Benghazi, Tripoli (LN)
16:25 Medina, Jeddah (SDI)
16:30 Old Favourite
20:00 Damascus
21:40 Dubai, Karachi
21:30 Kuwait
22:20 Jeddah, Medina
23:30 Cairo
02:45 Tehran

RADIO JORDAN

7:00 Sign on
7:01 Morning Show
7:30 News Bulletin
7:40 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Arab Civilization
11:00 Listener's Choice
12:00 News Headlines
12:03 Listener's Choice
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Radio Shop
14:00 News Bulletin
14:10 Music

14:30 In Concert
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Polynesian Pop
16:30 Old Favourite
17:00 International Top Twenty
18:00 News Summary
18:03 Jordan Week
18:30 Listener's Choice
19:00 News Bulletin
19:10 Music
19:30 Sign off

BBC RADIO

GMT
04:00 Newstalk
04:30 Letter from London: Play Choice
04:45 Financial News: Reflections
05:00 News: 24 Hours
05:30 Singer Songwriter
05:45 World Today
06:00 Newstalk
06:30 Baker's Half-Dozen
07:00 News: 24 Hours
07:30 Music for the Harpichord
07:45 Meridian News
08:00 News: Reflections
08:15 News: Press Review
09:15 World Today
09:30 Financial News: Look Ahead
09:45 Music Non-Stop
10:15 Meridian News
10:30 The Small, Intricate Life of Gerald C. Potter
11:00 News: News about Britain
11:15 In the Morning
11:15 User Newscaster
11:30 Anything Goes
12:00 Radio Newscast
12:15 Those Musical Islands
12:45 Sports Round-up
13:00 News: 24 Hours

13:30 Radio Theatre
14:15 Letterbox
14:30 Command Performance
15:00 Radio Newscast
15:15 Outlook
16:00 News: Commentary
16:15 Theatre Call
16:25 New Ideas
16:45 World Today
17:00 News: The Week in Wales
17:15 Music non
17:30 Sports Round-up
18:00 News: News about Britain
18:15 Radio Newscast
18:30 News: Album Time
19:00 Outlook
19:30 Stock Market Report
19:45 About Britain
20:00 News: 24 Hours
20:30 Smash of the Day
21:00 Network UK
21:15 Sarah and Company
21:45 Letter from London: Play Choice
22:00 Music: World Today
22:25 The Week in Wales
22:30 Financial News: Reflections
22:45 Sports Round-up
23:00 News: Commentary

VOICE OF AMERICA

GMT
03:30 The Breakfast Show
06:30 News, pop music, features, listener, questions
17:00 News Roundup: reports, opinion, analysis
17:30 Duetline
18:00 Special English: news, features "The Living Earth"
18:30 Country Music USA

EMERGENCIES

Doctors:
Amman:
Abdul Rahman Al Najjar (71780/7560)
Elias Esmail (74073/7356)
Irbid:
Brahim Al Zubaidi (5340)
Zarqa:
Mustafa Odeh Aqeel (83744/5092)
Pharmacies:
Abu Ghazaleh (25290)
Shalwan (21691)
Fatahah (37140)
Nasser (23791)
Irbid:
Ben Sura
Thaib
Mummar
Zarqa:
Al Selch
Tadris
Habl (42201)
Al Bakhaw (37249)
Al Rashad (22033)
Al Janamsh (61611)

THE Daily Crossword by Stanley B. Whitten

ACROSS
1 Landing boats
5 Turkish title
10 Alaskan island
14 Case for small articles
15 Singing group
16 "Exodus" author
17 Financial center
19 Certain
20 Put forth
21 Voluntary servicemen
23 Stock trading units

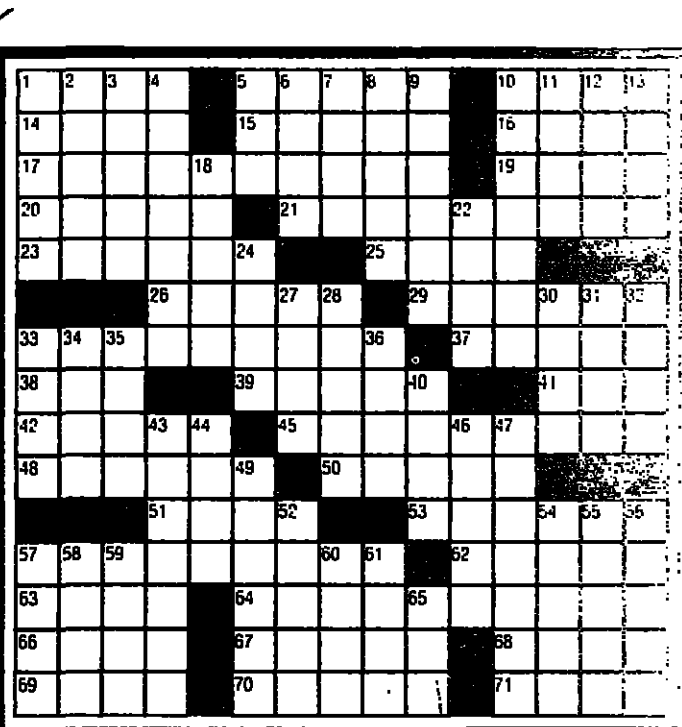
DOWN
26 Injury mark
28 Force
33 Coin flip outcome phrase
37 Angle
38 Military place: abbr.
39 Savor
41 Iced drink
42 Declaims
45 Retires
46 Wams
50 Strike
51 Arabian gulf
53 Chemical element
57 Sunflower and millet products

OKAY
62 To — (perfectly)
64 Market crash number
66 Type of market form
68 A writing
69 Elec. units
70 Choice part
71 Car mar

LETTERS
27 Letters from Greece
28 Tables
30 Roman statesman
31 Was aware
32 Cetz or Kanton
33 Israeli dance
34 And others: abbr.
35 problem: Ship prod?
36 Hercic
37 Stock speculators
38 Cretia
39 abbr.
40 Made
41 Tulle
42 Stew
43 Staircase component
44 Quick
45 Russian leader
46 Handle
47 All
48 News br
49 Galtier
50 Pickle and cheese
51 place
52 Agitated state
53 Before head or nail

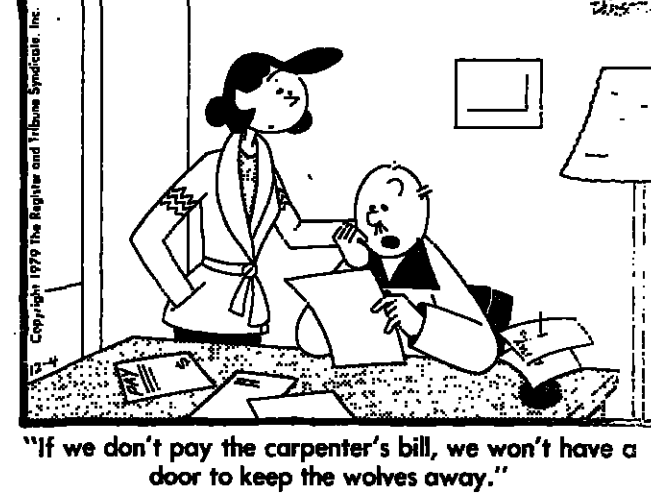
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

TOAD SODAS MALE
LIMIN PLUME TILAY
ANNIE RACER STIZE
INSTANT REPLY
SINCE NOT IN
INDIE ADULT BILL
BACKTOSQUARONE
TIT PLUS TMAO
SUDANESE DOTS
SIN SETS
SECOND SIES
MAKE BARE APIS
EVEN SNIDE RIDE
WRIST SATIRED VIER



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THE BETTER HALF By Vince



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Y.W.M.C.A.
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One man killed, believed Arab London tourist hotel hit by mystery bomb blast

LONDON, Jan. 17 (R)—A mystery bomb explosion blasted a central London tourist hotel today killing one man, believed to be an Arab, wounding another and sending scores of guests fleeing into the streets.

A second device, thought to have been buried in the debris of the first explosion, erupted at the 700-room Mount Royal Hotel almost five hours later but caused no casualties.

Police said only that the dead man, aged between 25 and 35, was from the Middle East and was of Arab origin. Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist unit commander Peter Duffy told reporters he could not yet say whether the man had been the victim of an attack or had been making up the explosion.

Viet delay in launching Khmer offensive possibly linked to Afghan situation

BANGKOK, Jan. 17 (R)—Moscow's intervention in Afghanistan may have restrained Vietnamese forces from launching an expected offensive against anti-government guerrillas in Kampuchea, a senior Thai military officer said today.

Supreme command chief spokesman Lieutenant-General Som Khataphan told a news conference that Vietnamese-led forces in Kampuchea may also have had trouble locating positions of Khmer guerrillas in areas near the Thai border.

Vietnamese and Phnom Penh government forces have been expected for several weeks to launch a major campaign against guerrillas loyal to the Khmer Rouge government, driven from power a year ago.

General Som said he believed the offensive had not materialised because Moscow wanted to ride out international protests against

its own intervention in Afghanistan last month.

He said fighting between guerrilla and Vietnamese-led forces was largely confined to an area along the border between Poipet and Pailin, a mining town about 100 kilometres to the south.

General Som said this might be because of the diplomatic setback Hanoi suffered in the United Nations in November, when the General Assembly passed a resolution calling for the immediate withdrawal of foreign forces from Kampuchea.

General Som also told reporters that four armed Vietnamese soldiers had been captured while intruding into Thailand's Pongnamron district last Monday.

More than 300 soldiers have defected or been arrested for intruding into Thailand during the past year.

IFAD strategy aims to ensure aid reaches Third World's poor

ROME, Jan. 17 (R)—A new strategy to ensure that economic aid reaches the poor and does not end up in the pockets of rich landowners in the Third World is being quietly launched here.

Still in its early stages, the idea has been planned by the two-year-old International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), which is spending nearly \$1 billion over three years to help poor countries to feed themselves.

IFAD's strategy is to restrict its loans to governments which promise the money will only go to the poor and then to apply conditions. "The very poor can only be helped if they are sufficiently organised to handle the aid," said IFAD Vice-President Sarjaj Aziz.

"And almost national institutions designed to help the poor have to be restructured," added in an interview. "When these two conditions have been fulfilled, IFAD is ready to lend money."

IFAD, an independent Rome-based agency linked to the United Nations, is financed by the world's industrialised and oil-producing nations and is currently seeking a replenishment of its billion-dollar fund by between \$1.5 and \$2 billion.

Its new approach is an attempt to deal with criticism of foreign aid on the grounds that the benefits from conventional big projects like dams and irrigation schemes are usually obtained by wealthy landowners.

The critics have frequently complained that this "trickle down" approach to foreign aid does not reach the poor.

One of IFAD's innovations is a \$30 million loan to the Agricultural Development Bank of Pakistan which involves a radical new approach to banking.

"We told the bank we wanted half of the money loaned to people with less than 25 acres (ten hectares)," Mr. Aziz said.

"Illiterate peasants will never go to a bank and ask for a loan," the IFAD vice-president added. "We needed people who would go out to them and explain what they could do."

The bank has agreed to train some 250 staff with rural backgrounds and agricultural degrees to work as bankers and agricultural officers in the Pakistani villages.

IFAD goes one stage further in Nepal. It is preparing a \$20 million loan to help the Agricultural Development Bank in Kathmandu to organise "small farmer credit groups."

Under this loan scheme, groups of peasants will be able to obtain small loans for water pumps or buffaloes on terms which no single peasant could afford.

In the impoverished West African state of Mali, IFAD is promoting a loan which takes this approach further by working with village people rather than bureaucrats.

Unlike the Nepal project which involved poor peasants, the aim in Mali is to organise entire poor villages.

IFAD is not applying this strategy to all of its loans as it is still being worked out pragmatically by special IFAD loan missions in the Third World.

About half of the agency's loans are made in association with other aid agencies like the World Bank, Islamic Development Bank and regional development banks.

IFAD's Saudi Arabian president, Mr. Abdul Muhisin Sudeary, said "We are ready to aid projects by other agencies if the essential component is to help the very poor in a country."

But the Liberian representative said a Liberian survey showed that between 1977 and last year, 1,041 ships registered in Liberia had switched to another flag.

"The overwhelming majority were re-registered under the flags of developed countries," he said. The Geneva negotiators were being handed "an absolute

the hotel off Oxford Street in the heart of London's West End shopping centre, reducing four or five rooms to rubble. "There was one hell of a blast," said a fire brigade spokesman.

The £20-a-night hotel was popular amongst foreign visitors coming to London for shopping trips. Guests included Arabs, Americans, Europeans and other people from the Middle and Far East.

Sales executive Amanda Hughes, 22, said she saw hundreds of guests wandering in the street outside the hotel shortly after the explosion. "I saw masses and masses of people in their night-clothes, walking on bare feet," she said.

The explosion raised some speculation that an urban guerrilla group could be working again in London. The British capital was hit by a wave of attacks in 1978.

In that year the London spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation was shot dead in his office, two Syrian embassy officials were killed by a bomb, the Iraqi ambassador narrowly escaped death in another explosion, former Iraqi premier Colonel Abdul-Razaq Al Naif was assassinated and an Israeli airline hostess died in a machine gun and grenade assault.

The most recent bomb blast in London was last Dec. 17 when a bomb damaged the central London office of Turkish Airlines. A secret Armenian liberation group claimed responsibility for the attack. The same group had claimed responsibility for similar attacks at Turkish Airline offices in Rome and Paris a few weeks earlier.

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Liberia, estimated to have registered nearly 74 per cent of the 213 million deadweight tonnes of ships flying flags of convenience, told a meeting organised by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) that an end to open registries would lead to "violent and cut-throat competition" for trade.

The "Group of 77" which links about 120 developing nations called in a statement for "action to phase out over a reasonable period of time the unacceptable current practice of open registry shipping."

Group spokesman Nicolas Monge said flags of convenience had prevented developing countries from gaining a fair share of world shipping.

But the Liberian representative said a Liberian survey showed that between 1977 and last year, 1,041 ships registered in Liberia had switched to another flag.

"The overwhelming majority were re-registered under the flags of developed countries," he said. The Geneva negotiators were being handed "an absolute

Ex-Beatle McCartney remains in Tokyo jail over drug allegations

TOKYO, Jan. 17 (R)—Former Beatle Paul McCartney faced another night in a police cell tonight as narcotic control officials questioned him further about allegations that he had tried to smuggle marijuana into Japan.

Informed sources said his American wife, Linda, and two other members of his Wings pop group were also expected to be questioned.

Mr. McCartney, who arrived yesterday for a concert tour, was arrested last night after customs officials said they found 220 grammes of the drug in his suitcase. He spent the night in a police cell and this morning was taken in handcuffs to narcotic control headquarters.

A spokesman for the Health and Welfare Ministry said questioning was likely to continue this evening and would probably resume tomorrow after another night in detention.

Looking grim-faced and muttering "mistake, serious mistake," the 37-year-old former Beatle star who became the most successful songwriter of all time, was greeted by tearful teenage girls fans as he arrived at narcotics headquarters.

The sponsors of the Wings tour have cancelled all the 11 concerts planned in Japan and are expected to lose more than \$400,000.

Official investigators have 48 hours from arrest to decide whether to send the case to the public prosecutor, who in turn has 24 hours to decide whether to lay formal charges. Mr. McCartney faces either deportation or a trial. If convicted he could be jailed for up to five years for possession of drugs or up to seven years for smuggling.

A spokesman for the music promotion company Udo Artists said Mr. McCartney should have been aware that marijuana was banned in Japan. The money for the 100,000 tickets sold would be refunded, the spokesman added.

Mr. McCartney was fined for drug possession in Sweden in 1972. Earlier the same year he was fined for cultivating cannabis at his home in Scotland.

Developing countries call for ban on 'flags of convenience'

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"The overwhelming majority were re-registered under the flags of developed countries," he said. The Geneva negotiators were being handed "an absolute

framework for doing violence to the sovereignty of Liberia, of Panama and of sundry other developing countries," he said. Panama and Cyprus, both major open-registry states, backed his statement. Industrial nations have already opposed the phasing out of flags of convenience.

Major election issue in Gibraltar expected to be Spain's blockade

GIBRALTAR, Jan. 17 (R)—Spain's continuing blockade of Gibraltar, is expected to feature prominently in elections to be held in the British colony on Feb. 6.

A total of 27 candidates are standing for the 15 seats in the House of Assembly where the pro-British party of outgoing Chief Minister Sir Joshua Hassan holds the majority with eight representatives.

His Civil Rights-Labour Party is again fielding eight candidates, the same number as the Democratic Party for British Gibraltar.

The blockade of Gibraltar by Spain, which has long laid claim to the rocky promontory guarding the entrance to the Mediterranean, falls within the sphere of foreign policy and therefore is the responsibility of the British Government.

Tito's left leg worsens, general health improve

BELGRADE, Jan. 17 (R)—The condition of President Tito's left leg is worsening after an operation to clear an arterial blockage last weekend, his doctors said today. But the doctors said the general condition of the 87-year-old president had improved since yesterday.

The medical bulletin said: "The general state of President Tito's health is improving further. The president spent last night quietly. He slept well. His temperature, blood pressure and pulse are within a normal range. The condition of the operated left leg is in a gradually worsening state."

Informed sources said the eight doctors feared that gangrene might set in following the worsening state of the leg over the last two days.

Medical sources said there was a clear possibility that doctors might be forced to amputate the leg soon to prevent the condition from spreading fatally.

The sources said treatment of the president was complicated by the fact that he also suffered from diabetes.

The president is undergoing treatment in the cardio-vascular section of the main hospital in the northern city of Ljubljana.

President Tito entered the hospital there for the first time two weeks ago, but left after a two-day stay.

He was re-admitted for the operation last weekend after his doctors declared that a course of medication and hydrotherapy had failed.

Mr. Tito has been in power more than 30 years and his illness had heightened fears in Yugoslavia about the future of this

ethnically and culturally diverse country of 22 million people, historically dogged by sectarian hatreds and feuds.

Yugoslavia, which broke with the Soviet bloc in 1948 to pursue a fiercely independent non-aligned foreign policy and develop a system of self-management at home, has expressed deep concern at Moscow's military intervention in Afghanistan.

Yugoslav leaders, deprived at least for the present of President Tito's skills as a world statesman, fear that the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan might well pose a threat for Yugoslavia with its strategic position in the Mediter-



President Tito

anean facing Italy and Greece. Although there have been signs of panic, security cautions have been tightened, army leave restricted, said. But they added that movements to borders with bloc countries had been of

World News Briefs

JOHANNESBURG, Jan. 17 (R)—A judge who played a key role in unseating South Africa's Information Department scandal has been named from the bench, it was announced today. Justice Anton ter, who discovered secret Information Department activities as the funding of the pro-government newspaper The Citizen conducting an inquiry into exchange control irregularities, told the Minister Alwyn Schlebusch of his decision yesterday. It Mostert's disclosures led to the appointment of another commission to investigate the information scandal, whose findings led to the resignation of President and former prime minister Vorster and Information Minister Connie Mulder. Justice ter would not comment on his resignation except to say he was returning to his law practice. But his action, and the simultaneous resignation of a fellow judge, Justice Mervyn King, were seen as a landmark in South African legal history. There have been no previous resignations from the bench for reasons other than old age or health. Justice King would also not disclose the reasons for his resignation.

MUNICH, West Germany, Jan. 17 (R)—Former Empress Farah said in an interview published yesterday she and her husband, Prince Ali, did not plan to return to the United States from Panama. In an interview with the West German weekly magazine Quick, she said the Shah of Iran, who went into exile after last year's February revolution in the country, may need a further medical operation. "It is quite a question of whether we will return to the USA," she told Quick. Asked whether she and her husband feared an assassination attempt, she said: "certainly not."

OBERLIN, Ohio, Jan. 17 (R)—Disc Jockey Scott Miller named himself as the 51st American hostage. To dramatise the plight of Americans held hostage at the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Mr. Miller shut himself up in a local radio station and vowed to stay there until the hostages are freed. He has been there now for 38 days—35 days less the hostages have been locked up in Tehran. The 26-year-old announcer, trying to emulate the spartan lifestyle of the hostages, bound for three hours a day, sleeps on the floor and takes no exercise. He has not changed his clothes or showered, not has he spoken to his wife of one year since he began his self-imposed captivity at station WBOL in this rural town of 8,000 some kilometres outside Cleveland. "I'm going all the way," said Miller, who still hosts a daily talk show on the hostage crisis and receives numerous calls from well-wishers. "I'm the hostage who can talk to," he said. "I can tell them first-hand about the long uncertainty of not knowing when you're going home."

NEW YORK, Jan. 17 (R)—Air traffic controllers at New York's three international airports said yesterday they would refuse to fly for the Soviet airline Aeroflot because of the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan. But a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration, which regulates air traffic control, said necessary the controllers would be ordered to assist the Soviet flights. President Carter last week reduced Aeroflot's thrice-weekly flights to two as part of his retaliation against Moscow's Afghan intervention.

HALIFAX, Nova Scotia, Jan. 17 (R)—The Nova Scotia Supreme Court yesterday rejected a request by a U.S. company for an order on an Iranian freighter, the Arya Shad, Blount Brothers Montgomery, Alabama had sought seizure of the vessel as "hostage" for payment of \$8.5 million it said was owed by the Iranian government on its housing and hotel construction subsidiary BCI Corporation. The Arya Shad has been in Canadian waters several weeks and was ordered by the court last Friday to leave the port of Mulgrave, Nova Scotia, while the case was heard. Blount Brothers argued that the Iranian Government's shares in the company which owns the Arya Shad, National Shipping Lines, and that shipping was placed under government control by the new Iranian constitution. But it accepted the argument of lawyers for the ship's agents that it not be held for a government debt. It ordered its injunction Friday, restricting the ship to Mulgrave, to be lifted last Friday.

GENEVA, Jan. 17 (R)—The United Nations refugee office has asked the international community to find an extra \$55 million to help Afghan refugees streaming into Pakistan. The office said in their country last month. Refugee Commissioner Paul Hartling said yesterday the Afghans in Pakistan numbered almost 500,000 and the UNHCR 12-month \$10.3 million approved last October had foreseen only 100,000 refugees. He appealed for wheat flour, edible oil and dry well as cash to buy building materials, tents, clothes and needs.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17 (R)—About 30,000 public employees will be laid off as part of a 30-month programme of measures aimed at staving off a predicted \$1 billion deficit budget. Announcing the measures yesterday, Mayor Ed Koch said the layoffs would include 7,000 teachers. Taxes on tobacco, property and liquor would be increased. New York went bankrupt in 1976 and since then the city has been borrowing from banks. It has been dependent on a federal loan programme to keep going. A deficit of \$1 billion forecast for the financial year beginning in July 1982, Mayor Koch said his measures would save the city an additional \$250 million in 1981 and \$461 million in 1982. The mayor predicted it would be "a lot of yelling and screaming" and within every pressure group in the city had protested against plan.

Iran jolts the caviar market

The international caviar market has been thrown into confusion by events in Iran, which controls 30 per cent of it. First there was a problem of smuggled black-market caviar; now the Iranians are talking of renegotiating contract prices, as Christopher Mansell of the Financial Times reports.

Last Oct. 16, at least ten people died and a further 15 were wounded in a riot in the Iranian port of Bandar Anzali on the Caspian Sea.

The explosion of violence was not in the common run of Iranian riots. It was sparked by no nationalism or political or religious feeling. It was a spontaneous uprising, and at its root was the most expensive of all fish roes, caviar.

The riot started on Oct. 15 when fishermen, and what the Iranian Government referred to as their "sympathisers", attacked the Northern Fisheries building. Two people died.

The next day, the funeral of one of them excited the crowd, which took off to storm the headquarters of the Revolutionary Guard and the local police station, burning vehicles in their wake.

On the orders of the Iranian navy commander and Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, the navy was sent in to quell the disturbance.

In the nearby city of Rasht, the action triggered sympathetic demonstrations, in which some 20 people were injured.

The governor issued a statement saying that while traditional fishing had been allowed in the Caspian for the season, some "irresponsible officials" had made a wrong move causing this "tragic incident".

The sedate and ordered ritual of caviar production suffered relatively lightly from the disruptions of the Iranian revolution, but the international market—of which

Iran controls about 30 per cent—was thrown into a state of uncertainty that it has not known for 25 years.

When Ayatollah Khomeini took over the reins, the international market speculated that Islamic dietary laws would preclude sturgeon fishing and the consumption of caviar. In the event, the 1979 season began normally in April. Exports resumed at the end of the month.

However, the revolution had strained the resources of the local gendarmes and police. The stringent supervision slackened and the poachers moved in.

A thriving black market was quickly established.

Some of the poachers were thought to be state contract fishermen. It was soon clear that the equivalent of around ten per cent of production in the state-controlled industry was leaking to the black market.

The poachers operated quite openly. Says international caviar consultant Georges Fixon, a French national of Russian descent: "I have seen poachers operating with a crowd shouting at them from the shore in plain daylight. No police to stop them. No-one prepared to prevent them."

Apart from ordinary greed, some poachers were fired with enthusiasm for Islamic democracy. A workers' revolution, they believed, meant that workers should share the fruits of the economy.

As the general manager of the state fisheries, Dr. Ali Rejali, has pointed out, "They think they can just jump into the Caspian and help themselves."

An amateur industry, complemented by an equally amateur smuggling industry.

Where the poachers threatened caviar stocks by taking immature sturgeon before they spawned, and where they processed the roe without special tools and without properly salting, processing and refrigerating their haul, the smugglers, drawn from the ranks of students and emigres, peddled their wares at the back doors of restaurants at 50 per cent lower than the standard price.

The big surge in activity was in June and July, and it is certain that some illicit caviar reached West Germany with its large Iranian population—probably through the

free port of Hamburg. The smugglers' biggest difficulty on the way was warehousing, and loads of up to three tonnes were impounded from private cold stores in Iran and destroyed.

Last October's Bandar Anzali riots were as much as anything a reaction against the reimposition of stringent controls and policing on caviar fishing. The Russians, who control about 70 per cent of the Caspian shore, had begun to get tetchy about the dumping of the illegal produce.

The other major market disturbance last season was Iran's decision in August to invite tenders from Gulf and Middle Eastern countries for 15 tonnes of caviar a year for three years. This is roughly the amount consumed by discerning domestic customers, who either fled or had ceased to flaunt expensive eating habits

after the Shah's downfall.

Since the nationalisation of the industry under Mossadeq in 1954, Iranian caviar has been sold at auction every three or five years. Export production—currently about 180 to 200 tonnes—is divided between the Russians, Europe and the rest of the world.

The Russians take slightly over a third. They themselves produce between 1,400 and 1,500 tonnes annually, but export no more than ten per cent. They pay the price that is fixed at the auction to the other two blocs.

The new auction to the Middle East is worth some \$2.2 million, a price about 100 per cent above that of the last general auction in December, 1976.

Industry observers say the question now is whether the Iranian Government is going to renegotiate prices with the holders of the current contracts for Europe and for the rest of the world.

FINANCIAL TIMES NEWS-FEATURES



London's Caviar Bar in Knightsbridge, which offers four different types of caviar, has customers from all parts of the world. (FT photo)